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# Democratic Stump Speech

Max S. Baucus

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Senator \* or Department\*: **BAUCUS**

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MONTH/YEAR of Records\*: **October-1984**

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(1) Subject\*: **Federal Issues**

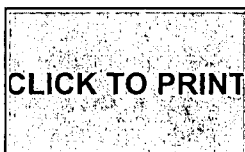
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(2) Subject\* **Democratic Stump Speech**

DOCUMENT DATE\*: **10/01/1984**

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\* "required information"



BAUCUS

DEMOCRATIC STUMP SPEECH

OF

SENATOR MAX BAUCUS

OCTOBER, 1984

I am honored to be our party's nominee for re-election to the U.S. Senate.

I love Montana.

I have a deep pride in our land and our people.

I am honored to serve Montana in the U.S. Senate.

With your support, John Melcher, Pat Williams and I are regaining the clout Montana had when Mike Mansfield and Lee Metcalf represented our state.

I am asking all Montanans for their support in my campaign for re-election, so that I can continue to fight for Montana in the U.S. Senate.

A CRITICAL TEST

I wanted to talk to you briefly about where we  
)nd as a state and a nation.

I want to talk to you about what we need to do to

move Montana and America forward.

I believe we are at a critical point.

We are being tested -- tested by serious challenges:

- o high interest rates
- o high budget deficits
- o fierce foreign competition

And we are being tested as a people:

- o our basic fabric
- o our fortitude
- o our capacity to put personal differences aside for the common good.

And I would submit to you that our ability to meet the challenges, our ability to pass our current tests, will simply depend on how determined we are to meet the challenge.

#### INTEREST RATES AND DEFICITS

Nowhere is this more true than when it comes to

the issues of interest rates and deficits.

Our federal budget is growing at a rate of \$21 million an hour.

During the ten minutes I speak to you today the deficit will rise by \$3.5 million!

During the next 24 hours, the increase in the federal budget deficit will be so great that it will cover the entire cost of elementary and secondary education in the state of Montana for one year!

Everyday we refuse to come to grips with the problem, it gets worse.

Now some of you may be asking: "Deficits? Is that a democratic issue?"

Let me answer that question by quoting a very great Democrat, Thomas Jefferson.

He observed:

"The question whether one generation has the right to bind another by the deficit it imposes is a question of such consequence as to place it among the fundamental principles of government. We

should consider ourselves unauthorized to saddle posterity with our debts, and morally bound to pay them ourselves."

Jefferson was right.

If we don't act now we will place an impossible burden upon our children and grandchildren.

#### THE FREEZE PROPOSAL

That is why I've worked so hard to promote a 1-year freeze on all federal spending.

I know there are some who think the "freeze" locks in place spending priorities we may disagree with.

But in fact, this freeze would end the hemorrhaging in domestic spending.

And in fact, the freeze would stop our "blank check" approach to defense spending.

Support for my freeze proposal is building.

John Melcher has cosponsored the spending freeze.

John and I will continue to work to enact the

freeze, and hopefully, we will prevail in the next Congress.

#### LUXURY CARS

As Democrats we can't be satisfied with just getting the deficit down.

We have to do so in a manner that is fair to working men and women.

It is this principle that distinguishes us as Democrats, not just today, but throughout our history.

It was Andrew Jackson who wrote:

"Every man is equally entitled to protection by law; but when the laws undertake to add (...) artificial distinctions, to grant titles, gratuities, and exclusive privileges, to make the rich richer and the potent more powerful, the humble members of touchstone by which to try the services of those we trust; and should we wander from them in moments of error or alarm, let us hasten to retrace our steps and to regain the road which alone leads to peace, liberty, and safety."

In this regard I was particularly proud of my

luxury car bill.

There's no doubt that for many Americans the use of their car is a legitimate business expense.

But why should taxpayers subsidize the entire purchase of a \$100,000 Rolls Royce or a \$50,000 Mercedes Benz?

The answer is: we shouldn't.

My proposal, which is now law, will limit the degree to which the tax code can be used to underwrite the purchase of luxury cars.

#### INDUSTRIAL REVENUE BONDS

I was also very proud of my successful fight against a House proposal that would have crushed new investment in Montana.

That proposal would have reduced Montana's ability to issue Industrial Development Bonds by 40%!

I authored the amendment that permits Montana and other sparsely populated states to issue at least \$200 million in new bonds every year.



Under the legislation the President signed this summer, Montana, in fact, will be permitted to raise the money it needs for new jobs and new businesses.

I am proud to be in a position to defend Montana's interests.

I am proud of my record of fighting for Montana.

That record is the basis upon which I'm proud to ask Montanans to support my re-election.

In my past efforts, you've been there for me...and for that I'm grateful. You've been tremendous friends!

But I'm even more grateful for your commitment to join me in this next challenge.

To put Democratic values and principles before the people of Montana in November.

#### THE CHOICE OF LEADERSHIP

The people of Montana have some basic choices to make on November 6th.

o We can address the challenges that lie ahead of us, or we can continue to ignore them.

o We can devise tough, effective solutions, or we can settle for political gimmicks.

o We can provide the leadership it takes to solve problems, or we can rely on ideological extremism.

We as Montana Democrats ought to be proud of the alternative we will provide:

o Ted Schwinden and George Turman, who have put in place an economic development program for which they nationally recognized.

o Pat Williams, who is considered one of the brightest and most effective members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

o Chet Blaylock, who will become a very influential member of the Congress.

#### THE DEMOCRATS IN '84

But there is much more at stake in Montana in 1984 than the gubernatorial and congressional races.

There are good Democrats all the way down the ticket.

And we better be careful that we don't get so dispirited about national trends that we forget to take care of the backbone of Montana's Democratic Party.

The Mondale campaign is turning around.

But we have to make sure not one single Democrat in Montana stays home because they think the Presidential race is a foregone conclusion.

We have too much at stake!

Political observers all over the country are looking to Montana to see if the Democratic Party can survive in the West.

So you have a golden opportunity to send them a signal and let them know that at least in Montana the Democratic Party is alive and well.

#### CONCLUSION

There's a growing mood in this country.

One of renewed patriotism.

Our job as leaders is to make sure that spirit is

channeled into constructive solutions to the challenges we face.

It was Franklin Roosevelt who said:

"Let us move forward with strong and active faith."

Let us heed his words.

Let us not look to rigid, right wing ideology.

Let us look to the future.

And let us work together to lead Montana forward.

Thank you.